

[*Translation*]

Proposal to connect Faizabad with Vayudoot Service

1267. SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the purpose behind introducing Vayudoot service in the country; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to connect Faizabad with Vayudoot service to attract tourists to Ayodhya a place of pilgrimage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :

(a) Vayudoot services have been introduced in the country to connect remote and inaccessible areas of the North-Eastern Region and to provide air connections to such stations outside North-East as are important from the point of view of trade, commerce and tourism and are not served by Indian Airlines.

(b) Such a proposal is not presently under consideration of Government.

[*English*]

Observance of National Youth Year

1268. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any programmes have been chalked out Union Government to observe 1985 as "International Year of Youth" in the country and specially in the Eastern region of the country;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Youth Organisations were consulted in the matter;

(d) if so, their names; and

(e) if not, reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (e). 1985 has been designated by the United Nations General Assembly as International Youth Year (IYY) with the theme "Participation, Development and Peace". As an active Member State of the UN, Government of India have decided to observe the year in a befitting and appropriate manner. The year is being celebrated in India as the Year of the Youth.

Government have set up a Working Group on International Youth Year *inter-alia* to draw up a programme for IYY. The Working Group included representatives of voluntary organisations working in the field of youth activities; namely, Climbers and Explorer's Club, New Delhi, R.K. Mission Ashram, Narendrapur, Bharatiya Adimjati Sewak Sangh, New Delhi and Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay.

Special programmes for observance of the International Youth Year in the country including the Eastern Region have been drawn up. These include *inter-alia* :—

- (i) Observance of the birthday of Swami Vivekananda (12th January) as the National Youth Day.
- (ii) Observance of January 12 to January 19 as National Youth Week.
- (iii) Holding of National and International Seminars.
- (iv) Organisation of National Integration Camps.
- (v) Organisation of Exhibitions.
- (vi) Holding of National Sports Festival.
- (vii) Holding of National Theatre Festival
- (viii) Organisation of National Youth Festival.

- (ix) Setting up of more Youth Hostels.
- (x) Holding of International Youth Cultural Festival.
- (xi) Issue of commemorative coins and stamps.
- (xii) Organisation of special programmes by the National Service Scheme Units and the Nehru Yuvak Kendras.
- (xiii) Institution of National Youth Awards.

Arms Talks Between USA and USSR in Geneva

1269. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether arms talks between USA and USSR scheduled to be held in Geneva on March 12, 1985, have taken place and whether we have received authentic reports about the proceedings thereof;

(b) if so, the details of the subjects discussed and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the prospects of arriving at an agreed settlement about nuclear disarmament involving all the nuclear powers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). The USA and USSR commenced arms negotiations in Geneva on March 12, as scheduled. According to the joint statement issued by the U.S. Secretary of State and the Soviet Foreign Minister on 8th January, 1985, the subject of these negotiations will be "a complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms—both strategic and in immediate range—with all the questions considered and resolved in their inter-relationship".

By mutual agreement the two negotiating parties have agreed to keep the pro-

ceedings of their talks confidential. The other three nuclear weapon powers—the United Kingdom, France and China—are not parties to these talks.

Grant of Pension to Freedom Fighters

1270. SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many cases of grant of pension to Freedom Fighters have been received by Government during the last three years from Karnataka and Bidar respectively;

(b) how many of these have been settled and pension orders released year-wise so far; and

(c) what problems are being encountered in disposing of unsettled cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) 5489 applications have been received from Karnataka (including Bidar district) till 28th February, 1985 under the liberalised Pension Scheme affective from 1st August, 1980.

(b) The number of cases in which pension to Freedom Fighters of Karnataka State (including Bidar district) was sanctioned and rejected are as follows :

Year	No. of pensions	
	Sanctioned	Rejected
1982	434	620
1983	344	440
1984	301	1954

(c) Most of the cases are pending because of Non-receipt of reports from the State Government.

Setting up of One Star Hotels by I.T.D.C.

1271. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :